

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 01310 100853Z
ACTION SCS-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 CA-01 HA-05 H-02 /027 W
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O R 100829Z MAY 78
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0667
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

UNCLAS PEKING 1310

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CDES CH (MANSET, MARTHA)

REF: STATE 110805 AND PREVIOUS

1. USLO HAS LEARNED THAT MRS. MANSET'S REMAINS WERE CREMATED SATURDAY MORNING (MAY 6, 1978) IN NANNING. CITS AND GENERAL TOURS REPRESENTATIVE, ARMSTRONG, ADVISED THAT LACK OF REFRIGERATION FACILITIES NECESSITATED THE DECISION. CITS OFFICIALS IN NANNING SAID MONDAY MORNING (MAY 8) THAT LOCAL BURIAL WOULD HAVE BEEN AT MUCH GREATER COST THAN CREMATION. CREMATION COSTS ARE INCLUDED IN THE MEDICAL, PORT-MORTEM BILL AND WAS ITEMIZED AT 148.00 RENMINBI (US \$85.92: US \$1.00 TO 1.7262 RMB). ARMSTRONG HAD REMAINS SHIPPED TO PEKING ON SATURDAY AT COST OF RMB 8.00 (US \$4.64). REMAINS NOW WITH PAKISTAN INTERNATIONAL AIR (PIA) OFFICE IN PEKING. SHOULD MRS. KRIEGL WISH REMAINS SHIPPED TO NEW YORK, COST WILL BE US \$153. PIA STATION MANAGER CAN PUT REMAINS ON THEIR FRIDAY FLIGHT DIRECT TO NEW YORK. REQUEST IMMEDIATE NOTIFICATION SHOULD NEXT-OF-KIN WANT REMAINS SHIPPED. PIA ALSO ADVISES THAT THE AIRLINE WILL REFUND THE UNUSED PORTION OF MRS. MANSET'S AIR TICKET.

2. CITS PROVIDED ITEMIZED ACCOUNT OF TOTAL BILL COVERING ALL COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE HOSPITALIZATION AND DEATH.
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A. HOSPITALIZATION: RMB 846.20
B. TAXIS: RMB 241.10
C. CREMATION: RMB 148.30
TOTAL: RMB 1,235.60 EQUALLING US \$715.80

3. NANNING CITS ADVISED THAT SINCE MRS. MANSET'S SISTERS WERE UNWILLING AND UNABLE TO STAY WITH MRS. MANSET, GENERAL

TOURS REP. ARMSTRONG WAS OBLIGED TO REMAIN BEHIND
IN NANNING WHILE THE TOUR PROCEEDED TO CANTON AND HANGCHOU.
CITS INCLUDED ARMSTRONG'S COSTS FOR THE STAY IN THE TOTAL BILL:

- A. HOTEL: RMB 120.00
- B. FOOD SERVICE: RMB 48.00
- C. PLANE FARE: RMB 75.00 (NANNING TO CANTON)
- D. AIR TICKET SERVICE CHARGE: RMB 1.00
- E. INTERPRETER/GUIDE: RMB 96.00
- F. RADIOPHONE CALLS: RMB 11.40
- G. TRAVELLER'S ORDERS RMB 6.00
- H. SEEING-OFF AT AIRPORT: RMB 5.00
- I. VISIT TO CAVES: RMB 10.00

TOTAL: RMB 372.40 EQUALLING US \$216.74

TOTAL COST IS RMB 1,608.00 OR US \$931.53. CHINA
TRAVEL SERVICE ADDS THAT THESE CHARGES ARE ONLY FOR
NANNING SERVICES. MR. ARMSTRONG'S STAY IN CANTON AND
SHANGHAI PLUS TRAVEL EXPENSES HAVE NOT YET BEEN
ITEMIZED AND ARE NOT INCLUDED. CONOFF SPOKE TODAY
(5/10) WITH ARMSTRONG WHO SAID THAT HE HAD ITEMIZED
THESE COSTS HIMSELF AS ESTIMATES, AND WILL PROVIDE THE
NOK WITH A COMPLETE ACCOUNTING UPON RETURN TO THE US.
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